

Chukrasia tabularis A. Juss.

Systematic Position

Kingdom: Plantae
Phylum: Tracheophyta
Class : Magnoliopsida
Order: Sapindales
Family: Meliaceae
Genus: *Chukrasia*
Species: *Chukrasia tabularis* A. Juss.



Popular names: Chikrassi, Pabba, Cittagangukarra, Erra-pogada, Agil, Dalmara, Malaveppu, Bogapoma, Maleivembu.

Nature: Tree

Flowering time: May to June

Fruiting time: August to April

Plant distribution: It is native of Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam and exotic in Cameroon, Costa Rica, Nigeria, Puerto Rico, South Africa, and United States of America. It is usually found scattered in lowland evergreen forest or deciduous forest. It is a dominant tree, occurring in top canopy in natural forests.

Gardening notes:

- 1. Light:** It grows well in shade.
- 2. Moisture:** It requires moderate water supply.

3. Propagation: By seeds and vegetative methods.

Economic importance:

1. Wood is lustrous possessing an attractive mahogany-like figure.
2. Wood is used for high class furniture, panelling and decorative work; also for plywood, laminated boards, canoes and cooperage.
3. Young leaves and bark contain 22% and 15 % tannin respectively.
4. Tree exudes a water soluble reddish or amber colored gum.

Plant description: It is an evergreen tree reaching to a height of 30 feet.

Root- Tap root, branched; **Stem-** Aerial, erect, solid, woody, cylindrical, branched; bark brown, rough.

Leaf- Compound, unipinnate, paripinnate, green, glaucous above, pulvinus at base, petiolate, petiole green, 5-7 cm long, leaflets 11-14 pairs, leaflet 7-9 cm long, 4-6 cm wide, petiolulate, ovate, entire, acuminate, wavy, prominent midrib and veins, unicosate reticulate venation.

Inflorescence-Racemose.

Flower- Complete, actinomorphic, hypogynous, hermaphrodite, pedicellate, pedicel green, small, bracteate, bracteolate, bracts small, yellow; **Sepals-** 5, gamosepalous, connate at base, yellowish green, inferior, valvate aestivation; **Petals-** 5, polypetalous, yellowish, inferior, valvate aestivation, petals folded outwards; **Stamens-** 10, inferior, filaments united to form a staminal tube of yellow color, anthers yellow, basifixed, bilobed, longitudinal dehiscence; **Carpels-** 5, syncarpous, ovary superior, yellowish green, style cylindrical, hairy, yellowish, 1-1.5 cm long, stigma simple, rounded, light green.

Fruit- Rounded, yellowish green when immature and brown when mature, rough surface, divided into five parts by hard longitudinal layers, pointed base, rough surface, numerous seeds; **Seed-** Brownish, small, winged, flattened.

Some close up pictures of plant parts

